

# WINGSPREAD

Randolph Air Force Base u Texas

60th Year u No. 36 u September 8, 2006

## Finishing touches



John Estes (left) and Peter Hyde of Hyde Fabrication take measurements at the new Rambler Fitness Center Thursday. The fitness center is scheduled to open in February. For more details on the center and other future base construction projects, see page 14. (Photo by Don Lindsey)

## Pilot achieves T-1A 5,000-hour milestone

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Labor Day was just another day to fly a mission for one Randolph pilot.

But it was no ordinary mission for Maj. Bobby Loher, a full-time Reservist with the 100th Flying Training Squadron. The mission, a cross-country return from Colorado and California, marked his 5,000th flying hour in the T-1A Jayhawk aircraft. Seldom does a military pilot record that many hours in one aircraft and the major's record is a first for the T-1A.

Major Loher has been an avid flyer since he earned his private pilot's license at the age of 17.

"Offering a date in an airplane was really the way to impress the girls in high school," he said, "way better than just having a flashy car."

In his 20 years of Air Force flying, he has flown the E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System and been an instructor in the T-37 Tweet. In 1992, he was assigned to Reese Air Force Base, Texas, to help set up the training program for the then-new T-1A.

He often flew two training missions a day because the program was just getting started, he said.

"We only had two qualified instructors on staff then, so I picked up my first 1,000 hours in the T-1A in just 18 months with that flying schedule," he said.

He now counts more than 8,700 military flying hours, which when added to his civilian flight hours, makes a total of more than 11,200 hours in the air.

After a one year break in service when he flew for a domestic airline, the major landed a full-time slot in the 100th FTS, the Air Force Reserve unit that contributes instructor pilots to all the pilot instructor training programs on base. The T-1A program here,



Maj. Bobby Loher, 100th Flying Training Squadron, celebrates Monday after completing his 5,000th hour in the T-1A. (Courtesy photo)

centered in the 99th Flying Training Squadron, is designed to train instructors for the Air Force heavy lift aircraft training programs.

"It's not the usual nine-to-five job," Major Loher said. "It is a challenge to plan sorties to fulfill individual student training requirements and be flexible enough to work around changing weather conditions and flight restrictions. We couldn't do it without the superb support we get from our maintenance people."

Lt. Col. Robert Wittmann, 100th FTS commander, said Major Loher is a model Airman and pilot.

"This is truly a remarkable feat, especially considering the number of sorties this represents," said the colonel. "I virtually have to sit on him to make him take a day off from flying, which shows his dedication to the mission and his love for what he does."

Major Loher agreed that it is his passion for the job that earned him his latest milestone.

"I'm excited about this work," Major Loher said. "Here I am flying a really quality-built aircraft and getting to do that almost every day. Who could ask for more? It's great!"

## Personnel services continue virtual transition

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice  
Wingspread editor

As of Tuesday, Randolph Airmen are now responsible for updating their own assignment preferences online through the virtual military personnel flight.

The change is one of several to have recently taken place through the Air Force's Personnel Services Delivery Transformation. Other programs to go virtual include the selective reenlistment program, career job reenlistment program and the

Korean Defense Service Medal.

The Air Force initiative, which Randolph Airmen were first introduced to in February, will ultimately change the way military members do business by letting them conduct routine personnel transactions themselves via Web-based services and contact centers.

"Through PSD Airmen will have the tools and resources they need to guide their career in the path they want it to go," said Capt. Beth Hart, 12th Mission Support Squadron acting military personnel flight commander. "They will be faced with a lot

more responsibility, but it's nothing our Airmen can't handle."

Since the base wide PSD briefings in February discussing the new system and its timeline, Captain Hart and other Randolph personnelists have been working closely with the Air Force Personnel Center to make sure those actions now available online run smoothly for Randolph Airmen.

"The PSD timeline is a little behind schedule, but that's only because the experts want to make sure each

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# Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail  
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better. In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

**Col. Richard Clark**  
12th Flying Training Wing commander

## Agency Contact Numbers

Base Exchange	674-8917
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Commissary	652-5102
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
Family Support Center	652-5321
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
Inspector General	652-2727
Legal Office	652-6781
Military Pay	652-1851
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Safety Office	652-2224
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Sexual Assault	
Response Coordinator	652-8787
Transportation	652-4314

# Excellence in all we do is way of life

**Maj. Donald Brown**  
12th Communications Squadron commander

The Aug. 25 Wingspread featured an article by Lt. Col. Dieter Bareihs, 18th Fighter Squadron commander, titled When to say 'uncle.' Manpower cuts require a new mission outlook. In his article, Colonel Bareihs stated "No one likes telling his supervisor something can't be done." I certainly understand his observation and appreciate his assertion "yet this is exactly what needs to happen." His article also noted the growing number of "doing less with less" conversations. Last week, I caught the tail end of one of them. "Doing less sounds great, but it's not an option. The workload isn't going anywhere, so we'll just have to compromise on the quality." Since then, I've given a lot of thought as to how the attitude behind this statement may have developed and what we as Air Force leaders can do to minimize its impact. I've seen a lot of changes over the past sixteen years I've served in the Air Force. Some things, however, remain the same. Resources are always limited. Missions, programs, and initiatives still require prioritization. And looking for ways to fly, fight and win tomorrow's wars through technical innovation and process improvement remains a primary focus for our senior leadership. What has changed is the magnitude, pace and approach of our latest transformation efforts. As we



recapitalize our inventory and modernize our force through automation and centralization, manpower cuts are an unfortunate necessity. And while I have no doubt tomorrow's Air Force will be more efficient and effective than ever, the transition can sometimes seem overwhelming. This holds especially true for those who have difficulty visualizing where the Air Force is heading and the reengineering required to get us there. Now more than ever, it's time for the "new mission outlook" Colonel Bareihs challenged us to embrace. Those who can't, or won't, will soon find trying to accomplish tomorrow's mission with yesterday's resources, processes, and mindset extremely frustrating. Our future is designed for those individuals who are excited by challenge and aren't afraid to find better ways of doing business. Dealing with rapid change, huge manpower cuts, and the unknown calls for focused, straightforward leadership. First, it's critical that we fully understand our vision for the future and clearly articulate it to our workforce. As an example, consider the

communications community. In the near future, the command and control, operations and defense of our entire enterprise network will soon be driven by two integrated network control centers. Today, the same responsibilities are handled at the MAJCOM or base level. As we provide our active duty, civilian, and contracted work force a clear understanding of our end-state and the roadmap to get us there, the easier it will be for them to embrace the effort. Just as important, they'll now be positioned to help iron out the details and minimize the impact. Next, as Colonel Bareihs pointed out, we need to distinguish between what must get done and what gets put on the "chopping block." This step can't be taken lightly. In true Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, or AFSO 21, spirit, we must take a close look at what we do today, determine what is and is not essential to the mission, and anticipate new missions in the years to come. Only then will we be able to bring an appropriate "can't-do" list for the boss to consider and bring about the efficiency needed for our smaller Air Force to remain the best in the world. Finally, we must make it clear that the pursuit of excellence in all we do is alive and well in today's Air Force. As we gain an appreciation for where our transformation will take us and eliminate tasks we can no longer support, we'll be able to do much more than simply give our "best effort," we'll be positioned to excel in all we do!

# We didn't start this fight, but we must win it

**By Col. Anthony Johnson**  
455th Expeditionary Operations Group commander

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – We sent three young men and a young woman home in flag-draped, metal containers a few days ago. I was flying over the scene shortly after one of the young men died. The warrior we were talking to on the radio was audibly shaken by the event. Looking down on the situation from miles above, I was too far removed to truly feel his pain. He obviously wanted to avenge the loss of a fellow hero and under-standably wanted revenge for the pain he was suffering. My flight lead may have helped him reap a bit of that revenge. However, ladies and gentlemen, we are not in the revenge business. Our business is to make it possible to get on an airplane without taking our shoes off and to carry a laptop, toothpaste, perfume and our Ipod on that airplane with us. Our business is about building a free, democratic

nation to let the people of Afghanistan experience a better way than tyranny. Our business is about establishing an economy here, built around commodities that compliment the values most Americans hold close to their hearts versus one that tears at the fabric of our society. Our business is to restore the freedoms Americans enjoyed prior to 9-11. In sort, our business is to make the world a better place for our children and grandchildren. I mentioned that I was too far removed to feel the pain felt by the young man we were talking to on the radio. But when I landed my airplane safely on an airfield inside a secure compound, the pain became a bit more real as I visited the members of the squadron who had just lost one of their mates. I felt completely helpless. There was nothing I could do to relieve their anguish. They are warriors! Warriors conceal their grief and continue the mission, but they were hurting and I wish them God's Speed. As I think about the grief on their faces when they loaded their comrade's body on an airplane for the journey back to his family, the

thought of my family having to endure that same pain is unbearable to me. Although I look forward to going home, it will not be an occasion to celebrate. When all of us who have come together for this common purpose complete our task and have done some good in this place, when the women and children of Afghanistan enjoy the freedoms that most Americans take for granted, then we can celebrate. Please pray for the four young people who died fighting for our freedoms and thank them in the most sincere way you can. Thank them for fighting for you and your family. Thank them for fighting for all the thankless citizens who are going about their lives as if nothing is happening here and in Iraq. Pray that their families' grief will soon subside and that they will have peace. Again, I thank you for volunteering to leave your respective towns, cities and countries and joining in this worthwhile effort. We didn't start this fight, but we must win it for our children and grandchildren!



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# Randolph Combined Federal Campaign underway

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice  
Wingspread editor

Last year federal employees and service members donated \$268 million to the thousands of charitable organizations that are part of the Combined Federal Campaign.

Now underway through Dec. 15, Randolph men and women are presented with the opportunity to donate through CFC again.

From medical research institutions and abused women's shelters to educational, environmental and pet friendly organizations, a person has more choices then they could ever imagine.

But how do people choose which organizations are right for them? How do they know people actually benefit from their donations?

Some of Randolph's own can attest to the benefits of CFC donations as their families were supported through some of these worthwhile organizations.

Facing hard times as a single parent of a child born prematurely, one Randolph Airman sought help through the Friends of the Family Support Center, one of the many organizations listed in the CFC booklet.

"Due to my son's premature birth most of my money went toward getting him the things he needed, leaving me with little money to get by on," she said. "The Friends of the Family Support Center provided me



**CFC Fun Run at 6:45 a.m. in Eberle Park**  
**For more information, call Staff Sgt. Micahah Damian at 652-5682**



**CFC Golf Tournament at Randolph Oaks Golf Course**  
**For information, call Master Sgt. Kavooss Shamloo at 652-5321**

with a much needed grant to put food on the table."

"CFC donations make it possible to help people when they need it most," she said.

Lt. Col. Andrew Taylor, 12th Flying Training Wing inspector general, is another witness to the kindness of CFC contributions as his family was helped through the Angel Flight organization.

His mother-in-law, a cancer patient living in Panama City, Fla., is receiving treatments in Houston. Through the help of CFC donations, Angel Flight is able to help transport her back to Florida at no cost to her, said the colonel.

"Cost of care is high, so this is a blessing financially," said Colonel Taylor. "More importantly, the convenience of personal service from the center to the home airport means the patient, who is very weak from chemotherapy, can avoid the prohibitive strain of current airport travel restrictions. Since chemotherapy often drastically curtails one's resistance to germs, Angel Flight also reduces exposure to those germs and the risk of other possible health complications."

The colonel is a big supporter of CFC and encourages people to find a charity that best suits them.

"I strongly encourage people to donate to a specific organization of their choosing," he said, "one that really means something to them. That way, their contribution is most effective toward a cause they can really support."

Capt. Beth Hart, 12th FTW CFC project officer further stressed the importance of CFC and its impact at the campaign kick-off breakfast Thursday.

"On average, one in four federal employees or their dependents will benefit from the campaign charities this year," she said. "CFC allows you, the federal employee, to support charities you care about. If you decide to be a donor, how much you give and the group or groups that receive your support are decisions entirely in your control."

People interested in donating to CFC, should contact their unit CFC representative.



*Randolph Air Force Base houses more than 30 mission partners, including Air Education and Training Command, Air Force Personnel Center, Air Force Recruiting Service and 19th Air Force to name a few. Each organization conducts a unique operation, essential to the Air Force mission. These units, along with the 12th Flying Training Wing, are what make Randolph Air Force Base the "Showplace of the Air Force." This column is one of many focusing on one of these very special mission partners.*

## Air Force Recruiting Service brings people to job



By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

**AFRS Purpose**

The Air Force Recruiting Service is a major component of the Air Education and Training Command. It develops, implements and manages various enlisted and officer recruiting programs for the U. S. Air Force.

**AFRS Mission**

To recruit quality men and women with the right skills, at the right time, in the right numbers to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force.

*"Our recruiters may not all live near or on Air Force bases, but their presence in all 50 states and around the globe represents the face of your Air Force and creates a 'first impression' of our 21st Century Air, Space and Cyberspace Force."*

**Brig. Gen. Suzanne Vautrinot**  
*AFRS commander*

The Air Force Recruiting Service, a major component of the Air Education and Training Command, is headquartered here at Randolph.

The command's main emphasis is on recruiting qualified people with no prior military service into one of more than 150 enlisted career opportunities. The command also recruits prior and non-prior service officer candidates for Officer Training School, as well as chaplains, physicians, dentists, nurses, health care administrators and biomedical corps members.

"We recruit the very best the nation has to offer," said Brig. Gen. Suzanne Vautrinot, AFRS commander. "We look for people with the education, aptitude, commitment, language skills and physical abilities to make up the entire Air Force enlisted corps, as well as about one quarter of the line officer corps and the majority of non-line officers."

When the Air Force was formally created in 1947, recruiting was a joint effort between the Army and Air Force. This sharing continued for seven years, until the 3500th Air Force Recruiting Wing was organized at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Then in 1965 the AFRS headquarters was

moved to Randolph and in 1974 it became a component of the Air Training Command.

Today, the AFRS is organized in four groups and 28 squadrons, with approximately 3,270 active duty and 305 civilian recruiter and support personnel, located in more than 1,400 offices throughout the United States. It also has offices in England, Germany, Italy, Japan, Puerto Rico and Guam.

The 190 people on the headquarters staff on Randolph are responsible for coordinating with field recruiting offices around the country and determining staffing requirements based on local demographics and potential for recruiting success.

They also oversee an AFRS budget of more than \$100 million, manage logistical requirements, and develop specific recruiting plans and policies based on force-level objectives determined at the Air Staff. They then create marketing, advertising and media programs to reach targeted audiences. The headquarters staff also monitors the work of the recruiter training school, located on Lackland.

"Every Air Force person, whether active duty, retired, civilian or family member, plays a vital role in recruiting the next generation of Airmen," said General Vautrinot. "Together we set a great example for America and its youth, giving them a reason to join us in serving our nation."

## Personnel

Continued from Page 1

application works 100 percent accurately before making it available to customers," said Captain Hart. "We don't want to put out a broken product for the sake of a timeline."

As far as assignment preference updates go, Airmen should follow the instructions found in the "self service actions" section of the vMPF. Airmen are responsible for updating their

choices to reflect their desires and should view the enlisted quarterly assignments listings frequently to stay current on available assignments, said AFPC officials.

The SRP, CJR and Korean Defense Service Medal are all now automatically updated in the military personnel data system.

As far as the SRP program, the system automatically updates a member's reenlistment eligibility 30 days after appearing on the monthly SRP roster, said AFPC officials. Unit commanders will continue to receive

the monthly rosters notifying them of first-term, second-term and career Airmen eligible for selective reenlistment consideration.

The personnel system also automatically updates an individual's record with a CJR request during the first month of eligibility, provided they meet quality force factors which result in a reenlistment eligibility code of "1-R - first term Airmen selected for reenlistment under SRP," said AFPC officials. If a person does not have a "1R" eligibility code at that time, the system continues to review their records

monthly to determine if they become eligible during their CJR window and request a CJR at that time.

The vMPF has a link which displays CJR status to include a waiting list number for constrained skills and a CJR expiration date for those Airmen receiving a CJR.

While this automatic process also covers the Korean Defense Service Medal, Airmen are still encouraged to review their medals and ribbons on the vMPF. The vMPF can be accessed on the AFPC Web site located at ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil.



2nd Lt. James Andrew  
B-52 (EWO)  
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Michael Argento  
EC-130 (EWO)  
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Ravi Balu  
C-130  
Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Christopher Berry  
C-130  
West Virginia ANG



Ensign Timothy Bierbach  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Nicholas Coblio  
E-3  
Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Nathan Colestock  
E-8  
Robins AFB, Ga.



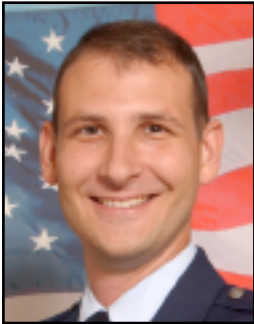
2nd Lt. Caroline Donohue  
C-130H  
Little Rock AFB, Ark.



Ensign Leslie Hampton  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Andrew Kassha  
KC-135  
McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Michael Korte  
HC-130  
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Trent Leeper  
HC-130  
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



1st Lt. Christopher Maston  
RC-135 (EWO)  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Geoff Medendorp  
C-130  
Ramstein AB, Germany



2nd Lt. Keith Merchant  
RC-135  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Stephen Pace  
RC-135  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



Ensign Jeremy Reynard  
EP-3  
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



2nd Lt. Brian Rumble  
RC-135 (EWO)  
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. William Schuh  
B-52  
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Jed Sherman  
B-52  
Barksdale AFB, La.



Lt. j.g. Sean Sonoda  
P-3  
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Lawrence Spina Jr.  
C-130  
Yokota AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Zachary Strickland  
E-3  
Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Waterman  
KC-135  
McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Brenden Westin  
EC-130 (EWO)  
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Jason Williams  
C-130H  
Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. John Yi  
EC-130 (EWO)  
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.

# Combat Systems Officer graduation today

Twenty three Air Force and four Navy aviators receive their navigator and naval flight officer wings during a Combat Systems Officer graduation ceremony here today.

The ceremony is at 10 a.m. in the Randolph Officers' Club.

During the CSO course, which starts at the 562nd Flying Training Squadron, students learn fundamental, system and intermediate navigation.

Navy and Air Force students spend about 91 days in the fundamentals portion, learning basic navigation principles, tools and equipment. Some of the lessons covered include how to construct charts, navigate using basic instruments, radio navigation aids and dead reckoning. As they progress, students move on to system navigation, where they are taught how to

operate advanced navigation equipment such as radar and inertial navigation systems.

During the intermediate portion, students learn how to integrate all the systems in a high-level environment. Students are required to use all the skills they have acquired up to that point and perform a global mission that includes timing problems, air refueling, communicating with other recourses and replanning procedures.

Those students, who go on to accomplish advanced navigation training at the 562nd FTS, learn how to apply what they've been taught in a low-level combat environment. Students are instructed in low-level navigation, advanced timing, target drops, threat reaction and airborne radar approaches. Other students advance to Electronic Warfare Officer

Training at the 563 FTS, where they learn advanced combat employment and planning of electronic warfare and weapons in a state of the art simulator which emulates real-world tactical environments for reconnaissance, bomber and fighter training missions.

Overall, Air Force students spend about ten months in training, while Navy students spend about 12 months, including their training in Pensacola, Fla.

The graduation guest speaker is Navy Capt. David Grimland, Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of Naval Air Training, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Col. Richard Clark, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, is presenting the students with their respective service's silver wings or gold wings, as well as presenting four special awards during the ceremony for student achievement.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Randolph Retirees

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Lloyd Oler, Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron, on his retirement.

### RFISD Seniors excel at SAT

Randolph High School seniors scored well above the state and national averages for the Scholastic Aptitude Test this year, school officials announced. The combined scores for the 62 seniors who took the test averaged 1073, compared to the Texas and national averages of 993 and 1015, respectively.

These results were matched with the composite scores on the ACT test, on which the Randolph seniors averaged 24.5, compared with the Texas 20.3, and national 21.1.

### 9/11 memorial service

A Sept. 11 memorial service takes place Monday at 9:00 a.m. in Chapel 1. All are invited to attend.

### POW/MIA ceremony

The 12th Flying Training Wing hosts a special Team Randolph Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Remembrance ceremony Sept. 15 at 9 a.m. at the Missing Man Monument.

The event features a 100-person formation, special presentations from several Airmen and a former POW as well as a flyover in the missing man formation.

### Munitions Flight closure

The Randolph Munitions Flight conducts its semi-

annual 100 percent inventory Sept. 25-29. It will be closed to normal business during that time except for emergency issues, which have been validated at group-level or equivalent.

### Breastfeeding classes

Wilford Hall Medical Center now offers breastfeeding classes for expectant parents. The classes are conducted by an international board-certified lactation consultant once a month in the hospital's birthing center. Expectant fathers are encouraged to attend with their wives.

To schedule an appointment, call 916-9900 and request the Wilford Hall Medical Center Pediatric Clinic. For more information, call Karen Haveman at 292-6452.



Nicole Rodgers

**Unit:** 12th Aircraft Maintenance  
**Duty Title:** Crew Chief  
**Hometown:** Midland, Texas  
**Hobbies:** Between work on the flightline and college, I don't have time for anything else.  
**Goals:** Test pilot, astronaut, or anything dangerous  
**Greatest Accomplishment:** Graduated valedictorian of Aircraft Maintenance class December 2005  
**Personal Inspiration:** Chuck Yeager  
**Personal Motto:** Do everything you do to the best of your ability so that you can never question yourself later if you could have done it better.  
**Pet Peeve:** People who don't try their best but depend on someone else stronger to come by and save them.  
**Commander's Comments:** "Nicole is in her fourth year here since starting in the



Alamo Area Aerospace Academy. She likes to learn, is respected by the other crew chiefs on the line and is an asset to the flightline crew."

**Rick Dix**  
Sortie generation shift supervisor

To submit a junior officer, enlisted member or civilian employee for the Showplace Showcase column, commanders can send an e-mail to Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice at lindsey.maurice@randolph.af.mil.

# SBP offers option for retirement financial planning

By Bill Turner  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

The Survivor Benefit Plan has a lot to offer retiring Airmen as part of a solid financial plan, and the open enrollment period runs through Sept. 30.

Along with savings, investments and insurance, the SBP affords the opportunity to provide financially to an Airman's spouse for life.

One benefit of SBP is that although retired pay stops upon the death of the retired Airman, with SBP the Airman can guarantee a monthly income continues. For 6.5 percent of whatever amount chosen (beginning at \$300 up to one's full retired pay) an Airman can leave his spouse 55 percent of that sum for life (unless remarriage takes place before age 55). SBP annuity also increases with cost-of-living adjustments. Spouse and child coverage costs a little more, while child-only coverage is considerably less because children are covered only as long as they remain unmarried and attend school full time or until age 22.

Each Airman is counseled on SBP as part of the retirement briefings, according to Pat Peek, Air Force

Personnel Center Retiree Services Branch chief, who manages the SBP program.

"Unfortunately, because of the hectic pace at the time the member is retiring, trying to decide where to live, buy a new house and getting the kids in a new school, much of the SBP information may be lost," she said. "That's why it's wise to know a little about the SBP beforehand."

Since it's a matter affecting the entire family, the spouse has to concur in the election if the Airman decides to cancel the protection enjoyed while on active duty. Airmen who refuse SBP or who take less than full coverage, may not have another opportunity to enroll or increase coverage. Open enrollment periods are at the discretion of Congress, and usually follow major improvements in the SBP, according to Ms. Peek. The current open enrollment is nearing its end.

In the past, once retiring Airmen enrolled in the program, they were pretty much locked in for life, said Ms. Peek. They could only get out in the event of a divorce or if the spouse died. However, members retiring since May 1998 have a one-year opportunity

between the second and third anniversary following the start of retired pay to terminate SBP participation.

This came about because authorities recognized many members weren't sure about their financial security at retirement, and were not taking the SBP because they didn't believe they could afford a 6.5 percent reduction in their retired pay for the rest of their life.

Now, SBP allows coverage in the event something happens immediately to the retired member, but also affords more flexibility after the member has had time to adjust to a civilian job and has a better idea of the future.

Another concern of retired members was that their spouse's annuity was reduced from 55 percent of the covered amount to 35 percent when the survivor reached age 62 and became eligible for Social Security based on the retiree's work record.

This, too, was amended by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, which eventually gives the surviving spouse of SBP participants 55 percent of the covered amount for life unless there is a remarriage before age 55.



## Air Force Anniversary Ball & Convention

Today at the San Antonio Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort

**Convention – 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
Featuring exposition-style displays from military and industry.  
Admission is free.

**Air Force Ball – 6:30-11 p.m.**  
Featuring keynote speech by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley.  
Music by Band of the West.

The 12th Logistics Readiness Division Vehicle Management Branch will run a free shuttle bus service to and from the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort.

Buses will depart the BXtra parking lot at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., to give people rides to the convention. Return trips leave at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Buses depart the BXtra parking lot at 5:30 p.m. for the ball and return from the Hyatt at 10:30 p.m.

# Three RFISD educators celebrate 30-year mark

By Bob Hieronymus  
Wingspread staff writer

Three Randolph Field Independent School District employees were recently honored for a combined 90 years of service to education.

Bruce Cannon, Debbie Magnon-Nolting and Jana Smith have each reached their 30-year milestone in the career field.

"It is due to experienced teachers and administrators such as these that our schools and district have achieved such high ratings from the Texas Education Agency," said Dr. Barbara Maddox, RFISD superintendent.

Mr. Cannon, currently principal over both the high

school and middle school, is a graduate of the Randolph Field school system. Other than his college years and two years teaching in the Northeast School District of San Antonio, he has spent his entire scholastic career in the RFISD. He has taught history, been a coach and was vice principal before taking his current position.

"I enjoyed teaching and now administration because of being able to work with students, their parents and our teachers," Mr. Cannon said. "I always looked up to my coaches and teachers when I was a student here and this is my time to give something back."

Ms. Magnon-Nolting is a history teacher at the high school.



Jana Smith, Randolph Middle School math teacher, works through a geometry problem with some of her students. Ms. Smith was recognized for more than 30 years as an educator.



Bruce Cannon, Randolph High School and Middle School principal, and Debbie Magnon-Nolting, high school history teacher, share a light moment in her world history class. Both of them were recognized for having passed the 30-year mark in their education careers. (Photos by Bob Hieronymus)

"I wanted to teach ever since I was 4 years old and my Dad made a 4x6 chalk board so we could play school," she said. "I dearly love social studies and it's so rewarding to teach students and watch them learn and share their perspectives on issues of the day."

Ms. Magnon-Nolting has both bachelor's and master's degrees and has done additional graduate work at 10 different universities. She has taught in schools in Ohio, as well as San Antonio before coming to Randolph.

Ms. Smith teaches mathematics at the middle school.

She has taught in many schools around the world and has authored nine books under the title of "The Imaginality Series" that are used in public and parochial schools. She was also selected to be among the "Outstanding Young Women in America" in 1986.

In describing her work as a teacher, Ms. Smith said, "I'm like a salesman in a shoe store. Every student needs shoes, but they don't all need the same size. I'm responsible for finding the right style and fit for each student."

"The challenge is great, but rewarding," she said. "I find enjoyment in helping students who are convinced they cannot be successful in math and then watch their surprise when they discover they can."

## Community Briefs

**Movies**  
**652-3278**

**Today**  
"Miami Vice" (R), 7 p.m. Colin Farrell – Two undercover detectives get caught up in a case involving drug lords and murder.

**Saturday**  
"Ant Bully" (PG), 2 p.m. Animated – A young boy learns about friendship when the ants he's been bullying shrink him down and force him to work in their colony.  
"Miami Vice" (R), 6 p.m. Colin Farrell

**Sunday**  
"Ant Bully" (PG), 2 p.m. Animated  
"Miami Vice" (R), 6 p.m. Colin Farrell

**Chapel Services**  
**652-6121**

**Protestant**  
**Sunday** – Traditional worship at 8:30 a.m., Contemporary service at 10 a.m. and Gospel service at

11:30 a.m. all in Chapel 1  
**Monday** – Men's Gospel Service choir from 6:30-10:30 p.m. in Chapel 1  
**Tuesday** – Gospel choir practice at 7 p.m. in Chapel 1  
**Wednesday** – Protestant Women Bible study at 12:15 p.m. in the chapel center; Contemporary Praise Team at 6:15 p.m. in Chapel 1; Protestant Youth of the Chapel Bible study at 7:15 p.m. at 10 Main Circle

**Catholic**  
**Saturday** – Confession at 4:30 p.m. and Mass at 5:30 p.m. in Chapel 1  
**Sunday** – Mass at 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 2; Religious education from 9:45-11 a.m. in Building 743  
**Monday** – Liturgy committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. and pastoral council meeting at 6 p.m. in the chapel center conference room  
**Monday-Friday** – Rosary at 11:10 a.m. and Mass at 11:30 a.m. in Chapel 1  
**Tuesday** – Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults from 7-9 p.m. in the chapel center; Traditional Choir practice at 6 p.m. in Chapel 2; Cantor practice at 7 p.m. in Chapel 2

**Announcements**

**Thrift shop closure**  
The base thrift shop closes at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday for training.

**AFSA picnic**  
The Air Force Sergeants' Association Chapter 1075 hosts its annual picnic Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Canyon Lake.  
For reservations, e-mail leslie.kelly-@randolph.af.mil.

**OWC jewelry sale, luncheon**  
The Randolph Officers' Wives' Club hosts a jewelry at its monthly luncheon Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the officers' club.  
For reservations, call 659-5907.

**Airman & Family Readiness**  
**652-5321**

**Driving awareness course**  
The South Texas Safety Council offers a Drug and Alcohol Driving Awareness course Saturday from

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and a two-part course Monday and Tuesday from 6-9 p.m. The cost is \$25.  
To register, call 824-8180.

**Waiting Families Night Out**  
The next monthly event is Monday from 5:30-7 p.m. It includes a meal and activity for families separated due to a deployment or remote tour.  
To sign up, call 652-5321.

**Military community job fair**  
The semi-annual San Antonio Military Community Job Fair is Sept. 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Live Oak Civic Center on Pat Booker Road.  
Visit [www.taonline.com](http://www.taonline.com) for details.

**Education Services**  
**652-5964**

**SAC classes**  
The San Antonio College continuing education director visits the education center Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to discuss human resources management certification classes to be held on base.  
For details, call 659-1096.

# Services

## Talented twosome



MacKenzie (left) and Kelsey Fletcher sing at the Randolph Family and Teen Talent Show Sept. 1 at the officers' club, where they earned second place honors in the teen duo category. Dozens of children, teens and parents competed in the four-hour show vying for first place honors in their respective categories. First place finishers include, Family category: Susan, Kelsey, MacKenzie and Tommy Fletcher; Parent and Youth category: Rita and Nicole Mauricio; Children category: Therese M.T. Phan; Preteen category: Jalen Thomas; Teen category: Phillip Wolf; Teen duo: Nicole and Phillip Mauricio; and Teen group: Barcelona featuring Ryan Houtt, Rick Guerrero, Dustin Ringler, David Grieder and Zach Lajoie. (Photo by Steve White)

### Miscellaneous

#### Talent search

Air Force Entertainment's 2007 Tops in Blue tour talent search is underway. All active duty military members are eligible to compete for the 2006 Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest Nov. 5-13 at Lackland Air Force Base. Perform Your Duty application DVD kits are available at the enlisted club, bowling center and fitness center.

### Information, Tickets & Travel 652-5640

#### Army vs. Texas A&M

There are discounted tickets available for the Army vs. Texas A&M football game Sept. 16 at the Alamo Dome. The cost is \$25.

### Youth Center 652-2088

#### Day for Kids celebration

Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch to the youth center Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for its Day for Kids celebration. Entertainment includes bouncy castles, clowns, hourly giveaways, games and contests.

#### Annual open house

The youth center hosts its annual open house Sept. 21 from 6-7 p.m. followed by a spaghetti dinner. The event is an opportunity for parents to meet the school-age counselors, open recreation and management staffs, and to review the various programs and activities offered by the center.

### Enlisted Club 652-3056

#### Football Frenzy

Customers are invited to watch NFL and college football games at Gil's Pub in the enlisted club Saturdays, Sundays and Monday nights as part of Football Frenzy. Participants can enjoy games, food and discount drinks during the game as well as enter prize drawings for NFL merchandise and a trip to the Atlanta vs. Tampa Bay game, Super Bowl and Pro Bowl.

#### Membership appreciation party

There is a membership appreciation party Sept. 21 starting at 4 p.m. in the ballroom. The party features a Caribbean theme with live island music. Drink specials are available. The event is free to club members and \$20 for guests.

#### Bingo specials

- Bingo is offered Monday through Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the ballroom.
- Big Bucks Bingo is offered Sundays at 3 p.m.

### Officers' Club 652-4864

#### Grandparents Day buffet

A special Grandparents Day buffet is offered Sept. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The buffet is \$15.95 for members and \$17.95 for all others. Grandparents dining with their grandchildren receive a \$2 discount.

#### Big band entertainment

Customers can listen to the big band sounds of the Ramiro Cervera Orchestra Sept. 15 from 7-11 p.m. A buffet is available from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The cost is \$30 for members.

#### Kids Night Out buffet

The next Kids Night Out is Sept. 16 from 6-8 p.m. and includes a Mexican buffet. The cost is \$8.95 for members and \$10.95 for non members. Children under age 13 eat free. Entertainment is provided.

#### Bingo

Bingo takes place in the Sky Lounge every Thursday from 6-10 p.m. with \$1,150 in prizes. A free buffet is provided for players.

### Bowling Center 652-6271

#### Grandparents Day

Grandparents bowl for free Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Everyone else can bowl for \$1.50 per game, per person, with \$1.50 shoe rental fee.

### Canyon Lake 1-800-280-3466

#### Sunset cruises

Customers can set sail on a Canyon Lake sunset cruise Saturday and Sept. 16. The cost is \$3 per individual or \$5 per couple. The boat departs the marina at 7 p.m.

### Wood Skills Center 652-7422

#### Children's class

The next Wood Skills Center children's class is Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon. Children and their parents will assemble, sand, and paint a spinning zoo carousel. The cost is \$5.

### Auto Skills Center 652-2952

#### Discount auto parts

Customers can order parts at the Auto Skills Center while they are working on their vehicles. Parts are delivered within the hour in most cases and at a discount rate.

#### Actron Auto Scanner

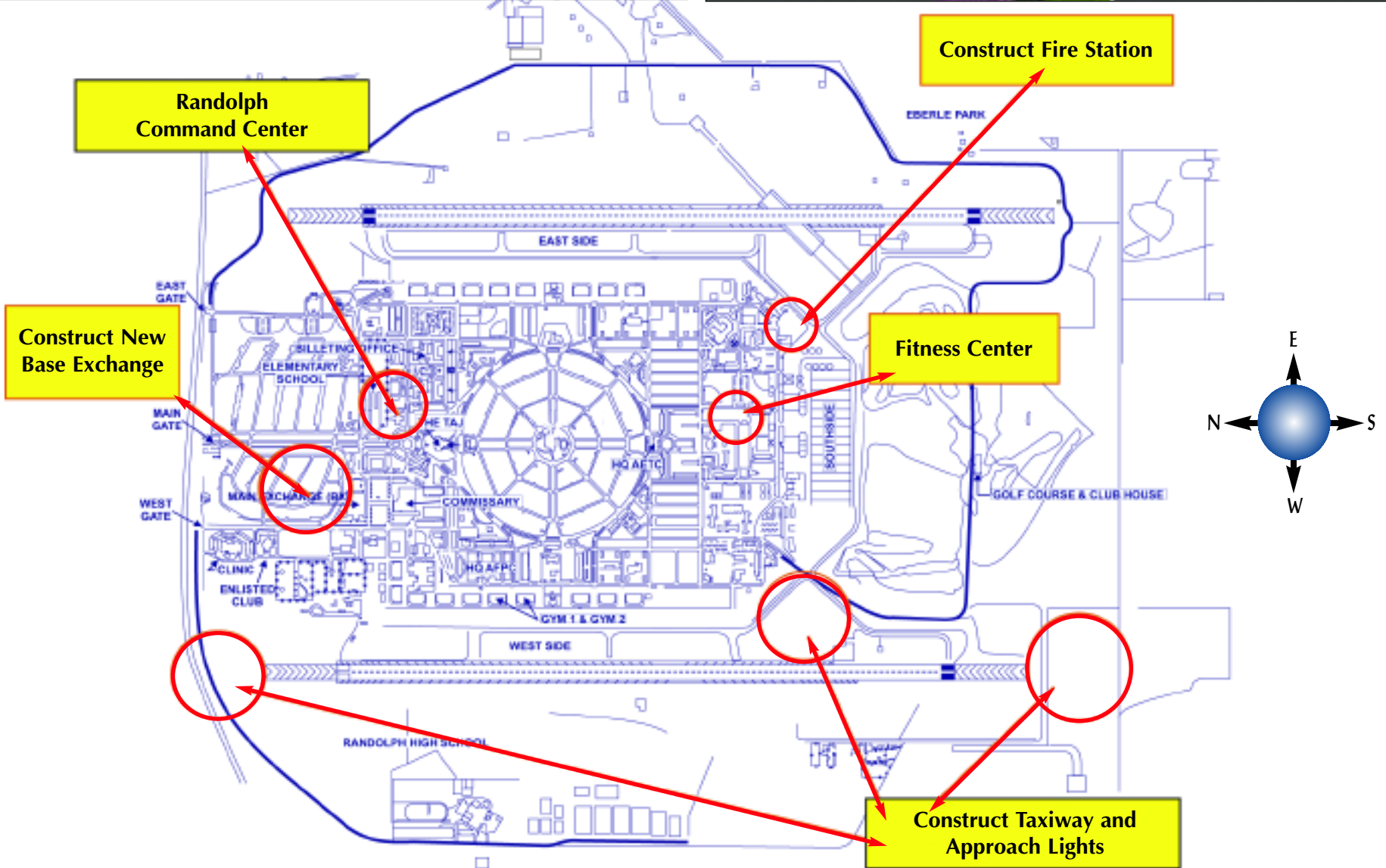
Customers with their "check engine" light on can use the Auto Skills Center's Actron Auto Scanner to determine what potential problem may be affecting the overall performance of their automobile.



Command Center



Fitness Center



# Randolph's Vision 2030 comes into focus

By Capt. Heather Kekic  
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The completion of Harmon Drive and the reopening of the main gate this past January completed an \$11.8 million dollar construction project and the initial phase of the Vision 2030 plan developed by wing leadership.

The Vision 2030 is the master plan wing leadership uses to identify all future construction projects to improve mission accomplishment and enhance quality of life at Randolph. The plan details the placement of new facilities on base, the potential costs involved and timeframe for construction.

The top three military construction projects identified in the Vision 2030 plan include adding approach lights and a taxiway to the west flight line, building a modern, more efficient fire station and building a new command center.

"Accomplishing the mission, being good stewards of the base and gracious hosts for all of Team Randolph are my top priorities," said Col. Richard Clark, 12th Flying Training Wing commander. "In order to train the world's finest Airmen for tomorrow and deploy combat-ready warriors today, we have to provide the facilities to be able to do so."

Adding approach lights and a new taxiway to the west flight line will provide a safer training environment for the students. It will also maximize training opportunities as students will be able to land in inclement weather and practice more training scenarios. The project is expected to cost about \$5.8 million and wing leadership hopes to have it funded by 2010, said Richard Trevino, base civil engineer.

We have to continue to improve our efficiency and effectiveness in our daily operations, said Colonel Clark. Adding approach lights will increase training capabilities and the new taxiway will cease

*"Accomplishing the mission, being good stewards of the base and gracious hosts for all of Team Randolph are my top priorities."*

Col. Richard Clark  
12th Flying Training Wing commander

unnecessary taxiing of the aircraft.

Additionally, adding a parallel taxiway to the west runway will eliminate conflict between aircraft, privately owned vehicles and pedestrians where current taxiways intersect at Golf Course Road, said Mr. Trevino, base civil engineer.

The second priority outlined in the Vision 2030 is building a new Fire Crash Rescue Station. The current facility is 40 years old and in immediate need of repairs including a new roof. Also, it does not meet the National Fire Protection Association standards because it is significantly undersized and outdated.

Overall, the current facility is 1,040 square meters smaller than the nationally required space. "Our fire station is substandard and our Fire and Emergency Services training mission requires a more efficient building," said Richard Trevino. The new, 2,815 square meter fire station is expected to cost \$10 million and wing leadership hopes to have it funded by 2009.

The third priority is building a new command center to house all of the wing's command center operations. The facility, which will be located north of the Chapel 1, will include the command post, crisis action team and wing plans. The facility is

estimated to cost \$1.8 million and be funded by 2011. Currently, the command post is located in the Taj Mahal, one of the most symbolic and recognizable facilities in the region making it an attractive target, said Mr. Trevino. The Taj Mahal also serves as an active water tower, another vulnerability that could be exploited.

The existing command center has major deficiencies, one of which is its limited size. During wing exercises the area becomes congested, limiting accessibility and restricting the overall operational efficiency.

Another frequently congested area on base is the Base Exchange. The Vision 2030 includes the construction of a larger BX located behind the existing one. The current 75,000 square foot facility will be demolished upon the new facility's completion. The new BX will offer one-stop shopping for AAFES customers, eliminate the congested areas around the current BX and BXtra and create a safer and more convenient flow of traffic.

The BX is funded strictly by Non-Appropriated Funds and construction on this Quality of Life improvement project is expected to begin in three to five years, according to Mr. Trevino.

One quality of life improvement all of Randolph will soon get to enjoy is the Rambler Fitness Center. Construction is expected to be finished in November when the facility will be turned over to the Air Force.

"We anticipate needing an additional 60 days to get the facility populated with all the necessary equipment," said Mr. Trevino. The fitness center is scheduled to open in early February.

"I'm excited about the Vision 2030 Plan for Randolph," said Col. Clark. "I'm proud of the direction this base is headed and for the opportunity to participate in the future development of the Showplace of the Air Force."



Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron's Lisa Barker dives to tag out 12th Comptroller Squadron's Roger Ramirez Jr. during the extramural softball playoffs Sept. 1. (Photo by Melissa Peterson)

# AFOMS defeats 12th CPTS 14-2

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice  
Wingspread editor

The Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron shut down the 12th Comptroller Squadron after the first inning with a 14-2 win in the third round winner's bracket extramural playoffs game Sept. 1.

AFOMS' infield hit its stride combining for 11 of the Comptroller outs, including two double plays, while Mike Skeens and Rod Merritt led its offensive strike, each scoring a home run and combining for five of the team's RBIs.

"Everyone played great tonight," said AFOMS coach Skeens after the game. "We really came together on offense and defense and played as a team. Our fan support really makes a big difference too. They give us that extra motivation."

The Comptrollers opened the game firing, as runners loaded the bases. Voyd Butler scored Roger Ramirez for the first run of the game off of an RBI single to center field. Brent Bell hit a second RBI single to left center two

plays later, closing out the top of the first at 2-0.

AFOMS quickly tied the game as Beth Mumaw hit an RBI double down the right field line followed by a one-run single from Janea Childress. Merritt hit a second RBI double to center field to score Skeens before Lisa Barker's sacrifice fly to left field. John Beard closed out the inning with a final run for a 5-2 AFOMS lead.

AFOMS' defense stayed sharp in the top of the second as it shut down the Comptroller's first three batters with a fly out to right and center and a ground out to short stop.

The team extended its lead in the bottom of the second as Skeens followed a Marcus Griffin-Hamilton triple with a two-RBI home run. Merritt connected on a second home run over center field to close out the inning with an 8-2 AFOMS lead.

The Comptroller and AFOMS defenses stayed keen through the third inning and bottom of the fourth. Skeens' proved instrumental as he struck out two Comptrollers, and

threw to first base for the final out in the top of the third. The Comptroller defense answered back with three quick outs of their own following a Nate Renes double, but AFOMS had the final say as it shut out the first three CPTS batters in the top of the fourth.

AFOMS dominated the fourth inning as it extended its lead by six more runs; including an RBI double from Skeens and a two-run double from Childress. Laura Merritt scored Skeens off of another base hit to left field before John Beard hit in the final two runs off of a double to right field for a 14-2 lead.

Faced with having to score three runs or taking a 10-run rule loss, the Comptrollers continued to struggle in the top of the fifth inning.

With one out on the board, AFOMS short stop Griffin-Hamilton made a quick double play for the final two outs of the game.

AFOMS now advances to play the loser's bracket winner for the championship title Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. at Yankee Field.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Freedom 5K Run

The fitness center hosts a Freedom 5K Run Monday at 7 a.m. at Eberle Park in remembrance of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The first 40 people to sign up receive a water bottle. The event is sponsored in part by Gatorade.

### Freedom Walk

Operation Homefront along with USAA, hosts the Alamo Area America Supports You Freedom Walk Sept. 11 at 9:15 a.m. in remembrance of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The two-mile walk begins at the Alamodome and ends at North Plaza.

The event is free. Registration begins at 8 a.m. People can also pre-register online at [www.operationhomefront.net/texas](http://www.operationhomefront.net/texas).

### Volleyball tryouts

Mens varsity volleyball tryouts take place Sept. 15 at 5 p.m. at the fitness center annex. All active duty members and DoD employees are eligible to try out.

For details, call 652-2955.

### Randolph Oaks Championship

Customers can register for the Randolph Oaks Club Championship Sept. 16-17 at the Randolph Oaks Golf Course. Tee times are from 7-9 a.m. The cost is \$20 per person.

For more information, call 652-4653.

### 2006 Global Volkssport

Walkers and bikers are invited to participate in the 2006 Global Volkssport Sept. 16 at Canyon Lake.

People can take part in two sanctioned 10K walks and a 25K bike ride. The "Over-the-Dam" 10K walk is suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.

Participants can register at the Randolph Recreation area's main pavilion between 7 a.m. and noon. All participants must finish by 3 p.m.

The noncompetitive event is sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association and Randolph Roadrunners and is sponsored in part by Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union.

### Fitness classes

The fitness center offers a variety of classes during the week including cycling, step aerobics, body toning, kickboxing, pilates and yoga.

For details, call 652-2955.

## RAMBLER 120 TEAM CHALLENGE

# Four-week countdown underway for extreme challenge

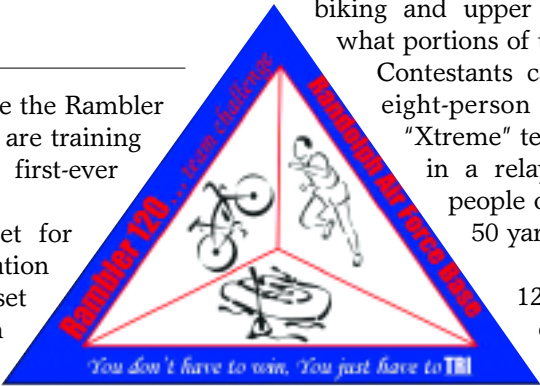
By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice  
Wingspread editor

With just four weeks left before the Rambler 120 Team Challenge, contestants are training hard to compete in the base's first-ever competition of its kind.

During the race, which is set for Oct. 7 at the Randolph Recreation Area at Canyon Lake, teams will set out in heats of five at a time on the 30-mile course which includes a 22-mile bike ride, six-mile run, two-mile raft race and mystery challenge.

"We're really excited to host this event," said Sharon Rector, 12th Services Division community support flight program manager. "This is a great way for Randolph Airmen and civilians to challenge themselves and build camaraderie. We just hope to see a variety of teams from across the base as this is a Team Randolph event."

With less than a month to go, most people have a regular training routine down including running,



biking and upper body workouts depending on what portions of the race they are competing in.

Contestants can contend in either a five to eight-person relay team or four-person "Xtreme" team. Teams choosing to compete in a relay format must still have four people on the course at all times within 50 yards of one another.

Second Lt. Charles Thomas, 12th Flying Training Wing executive assistant, has been training to compete on an eight-person relay team.

His workout regimen consists of long distance running three times a week, with sprint drills on the third day, as well as a total body workout three times a week with an emphasis on his core muscles.

The lieutenant said he is really looking forward to the competition next month.

"I love staying fit and in-shape, plus it keeps me competitive," he said.

Capt. Jennifer Powell, who plans to compete on a 5-8 person 12th FFW legal/inspector general team, said

she hasn't had to stray much from her regular workout routine to prepare for the Rambler 120.

"Our three times a week PT program takes care of most of my training for the Rambler," she said. "For the most part my team is trying to incorporate longer distance running and add one to two trail bike rides."

While some teams are finalized, other fitness enthusiasts are still searching for the perfect team.

Senior Airman Alex Larsen of the 12th Aeromedical Dental Squadron and one of his coworkers are on the lookout for two more team members to form their "Xtreme" team.

"I think the Rambler 120 is a good team building event," he said. "It also gives us a chance to meet other people who share the same passion for fitness and the outdoors. I'm looking forward to participating."

The race entry fee is \$80 per team, which includes a souvenir T-shirt for every member. Teams must wear the same color shirt the day of the race. Teams must also bring their own mountain bikes and safety equipment with them.

Teams can pick up an application at the fitness center. Applications are due Sept. 22.